

AN ACT

relating to a permit issued by the Parks and Wildlife Department for certain hunting dog field trials; authorizing a fee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 43, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subchapter J to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER J. FIELD TRIAL PERMIT

Sec. 43.251. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Field trial" means a competitive hunting dog event where dogs chase or pursue squirrels, fur-bearing animals, or nongame animals under field conditions.

(2) "Field trial permit" means a permit issued under Section 43.252.

(3) "Fur-bearing animal" has the meaning assigned by Section 71.001.

(4) "Nongame" has the meaning assigned by Section 67.001.

(5) "Squirrel" means gray or cat squirrels, fox squirrels, or red squirrels.

Sec. 43.252. FIELD TRIAL PERMIT. (a) A person may apply to the department in the manner prescribed by commission rules for a permit under this section exempting registered participants in a field trial held by the person from the hunting license requirements of Chapter 42 while the individuals are participating

1 in the field trial.

2 (b) The department may issue a permit under this section
3 only for a field trial held on privately owned land or on public
4 land authorized under commission rules adopted under Section
5 43.253(a).

6 (c) An application for a field trial permit must:

7 (1) be on a form prescribed by the department; and

8 (2) contain the following information:

9 (A) the name and address of the applicant;

10 (B) the address of the property on which the
11 field trial is to be held;

12 (C) the species of wildlife to be pursued in the
13 field trial;

14 (D) if applicable, the name of the hunting dog
15 club or organization sanctioning the field trial; and

16 (E) any other information required by the
17 department.

18 (d) The fee for a field trial permit is \$50.

19 (e) A field trial permit is valid:

20 (1) for a period of nine consecutive days; and

21 (2) only on the land specified in the permit.

22 Sec. 43.253. COMMISSION RULES. (a) The commission shall
23 adopt rules specifying the public lands for which a field trial
24 permit may be issued.

25 (b) The commission may adopt rules as necessary to
26 administer this subchapter, including rules necessary to manage and
27 protect wildlife subject to a field trial permit.

1 Sec. 43.254. HUNTING LICENSE NOT REQUIRED DURING FIELD
2 TRIAL. An individual registered to participate in a field trial
3 held under a field trial permit is exempt from the hunting license
4 requirements of Chapter 42 while the individual is participating in
5 the field trial.

6 SECTION 2. Section 11.032(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, as
7 amended by Chapters 235 (H.B. 2755) and 334 (H.B. 4018), Acts of the
8 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is reenacted and amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (b) The department shall deposit to the credit of the game,
11 fish, and water safety account all revenue, less allowable costs,
12 from the following sources:

13 (1) all types of fishing licenses and stamps and
14 shrimping licenses;

15 (2) all types of hunting licenses and stamps;

16 (3) trapping licenses and other licenses relating to
17 the taking, propagation, and sale of fur-bearing animals or their
18 pelts;

19 (4) sale of marl, sand, gravel, shell, and mudshell;

20 (5) oyster bed rentals and permits;

21 (6) federal funds received for fish and wildlife
22 research, management, development and conservation, resource
23 protection, and law enforcement, unless the funds are received for
24 the specific purposes of Subchapter F, Chapter 77;

25 (7) sale of property, less advertising costs,
26 purchased from this account or a special fund or account that is now
27 part of this account;

1 (8) fines and penalties collected for violations of a
2 law pertaining to the protection and conservation of wild birds,
3 wild fowl, wild animals, fish, shrimp, oysters, game birds and
4 animals, fur-bearing animals, alligators, and any other wildlife
5 resources of this state;

6 (9) sale of rough fish by the department;

7 (10) fees for importation permits;

8 (11) fees from supplying fish for or placing fish in
9 water located on private property;

10 (12) sale of seized pelts;

11 (13) sale or lease of grazing rights to and the
12 products from game preserves, sanctuaries, and management areas;

13 (14) contracts for the removal of fur-bearing animals
14 and reptiles from wildlife management areas;

15 (15) vessel registration fees;

16 (16) vessel manufacturer or dealer licensing fees;

17 (17) fines or penalties imposed by a court for
18 violation of water safety laws contained in Chapter 31 of this code;

19 (18) alligator hunter's or alligator buyer's licenses;

20 (19) sale of alligators or any part of an alligator by
21 the department;

22 (20) fees and revenue collected under Section
23 11.027(b) or (c) of this code that are associated with the
24 conservation of fish and wildlife;

25 (21) fees related to cultivated oyster mariculture;

26 (22) vessel and outboard motor titling fees;

27 (23) participation fees collected under Section

1 43.976;

2 (24) money received by the department from:

3 (A) boater education program courses and
4 examinations administered under Section 31.108; and

5 (B) boater education deferrals issued under the
6 program established under Section 31.110(c); ~~and~~

7 (25) ~~[(24)]~~ money received by the department from
8 carbon sequestration or similar ecosystem services projects
9 described by Section 11.302(b)(1);

10 (26) field trial permit fees collected under
11 Subchapter J, Chapter 43; and

12 (27) ~~[(25)]~~ any other source provided by law.

13 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, the Parks and Wildlife Commission shall adopt rules
15 necessary to implement Subchapter J, Chapter 43, Parks and Wildlife
16 Code, as added by this Act.

17 SECTION 4. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
18 over another Act of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025,
19 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted
20 codes.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2801 passed the Senate on May 1, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2801 passed the House on May 23, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor